

## Message Text

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14

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ADP-00 USIA-12 /022 W

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R 130828Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2543

UNCLAS TUNIS 4065

FOR CU/AF

E.O. 11652; N/A

TAGS: OEXC, TN

SUBJECT: UNIV OF TUNIS EDUC TRAVEL PROJECTS

REF: STATE 131229 6 JUL 73 AND TUNIS 3291 11 JUN

LETTERS TO ENGLISH MAJOR PARTICIPANTS OF 4 JUN AND TO JOURNALISM GROUP OF 5 JUN MENTIONED PROGRAM OF 45 DAYS WITH ETD 29 AUG AND WERE SENT BEFORE POST REC'D GRANT AUTH DTD 7 JUN AND NOTED ERROR, REDUCING PROJECTS WHICH FOR PAST 7 YEARS HAVE BEEN FOR 45 DAYS, TO 40. LETTER OF 19 JUN TO ENGINEERING STUDENTS MENTIONED 40-DAY PROGRAM WITH ETD 24 AUG. AT JUNE 30 - JULY 1 ORIENTATION BRIEFING FOR ALL SPONSORED AND UNSPONSORED TUNISIAN STUDENTS DEPARTING FOR US, IT WAS MADE CLEAR TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE 3 EDUC TRAVEL PROJECTS THAT THEY WERE 5 DAYS SHORTER THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. DSP'S AND AIR TICKETS FOR THE 15 ENGLISH MAJORS, 6 PRESS INSTITUTE STUDENTS AND 6 FROM ENGINEERING FACULTY ARE FOR 12 JUL TO 24 AUG, OR FOR 40 DAYS OF PROGRAMMING. THREE GROUPS DEPARTING TUNIS TODAY 1300 HOURS WITH ETA WASHINGTON 1410 HOURS FRI 13 JUL, DULLES, VIA TWA-891 FROM PARIS. AFTER THIS SUMMER'S EXPERIENCE, POST, CU/AF AND GAI CAN PERHAPS COLLECTIVELY ASCERTAIN IF 40 IS MORE DESIRABLE STAY THAN 45 DAYS, AND BUDGET FUTURE COUNTRY ALLOCATIONS ACCORDINGLY. POST FEELS STUDENTS, GIVEN THE CHOICE, WOULD ALL OPT FOR LONGER STAY, BUT FEELS PROGRAMMING AGENCY PERHAPS IN BETTER POSITION TO SUGGEST WHICH PERIOD IS MOST EFFECTIVE. WITH I.V. GRANTS THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN THE OPPOSITE. 45-DAY I.V. GRANTS WERE LONG AGO REDUCED TO 30 AND FROM RECENT PAST EXPERIENCE SEEM

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TO BE MORE FEASIBLE AT AROUND 25 DAYS, GIVEN THE WORK-LOAD

OF THE GRANTEES AND THE INABILITY TO ABSENT THEMSELVES LONG  
FROM HIGH POSITIONS IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING SOCIETY.  
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